



TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD

MEETING MINUTES

West Hartford Clean Energy Task Force

July 11, 2016

7:00 PM

Rm 422

1. Roll Call - 7:11 PM

Member	Present	Alternates	Present
Catherine Diviney	X	Ashwin Raghavan	
Robert Palmer		Max Dubuisson	X
Bernie Pelletier	X	Vacant (staff)	
Joe Campanella	X		
Chris Nelson	X		
Total	5		
Additional Attendees	Dan Tavelli, Doug Bacon, Sean Connaway, Dave Mello, Gerry Hayes		

2. Approval of Minutes - approved

- April 18, 2016
- May 16, 2016
- June 13, 2016 – none, not official meeting

3. Communications

- 5/17 – Packet from Energy Efficiencies Solutions (Windsor, CT)

Catherine brought a packet of info that was received from EES. They are interested in partnering with the Town for energy efficiency events. They are an approved EnergizeCT vendor. Maybe we should consider them for the Oct 12 Workshop?

- 6/15 – Email from Israel Smith re: Hotel LEED/Energy Model

It has been a struggle getting LEED updates on the Hotel. Architect indicates they just submitted comments on energy model and will have updated scorecard to share shortly. Catherine has notified them of next task force meeting dates. Mark McGovern (Comm Services) and Todd Dumais (Planner) uphold the LEED requirement.

Joe asked if anyone had heard about a small housing project going to next to the Hotel – and if that would be subject to LEED as well? Catherine will check if the project exists.

4. Ongoing Business

- Max DuBuisson approved as alternate **by** Town Council

Appointed 6/14/16.

- Hotel LEED progress

Slow, see above. Additionally, Joe asked if anyone had heard about a small housing project going to next to the Hotel – and if that would be subject to LEED as well? Catherine will check if the project exists.

c. Charter Oak progress

Good. The school will open on time in September. Some delays in getting utility shut downs on old building for demolition. Doug Bacon to check on progress.

d. Street Lights

- Main road installation complete

About 1,400 fixtures installation by Tanko/Red Thread

- Resident reaction / outreach/education needed?

Very little resident reaction. A few comments that it is too dim and doesn't light up the yard. A comment that they are too bright. Mark Hallenbeck at DPW responds to all official inquiries.

- Color temp debate (Dark Night Skies, AMA, Woody Weiss)

The thrust of the AMA article was that 4000K streetlights can interfere with circadian rhythms. In some traditional areas such as Nantucket people feel the bright clean light is not in keeping with the aesthetics of the place. The committee agreed to do further investigation: (a) Examine 3000K options (aesthetics, efficiency, pricing); (b) Reach out to Madison's Woodie Weiss for input/ spectrometer testing of lights installed; (c) Consider the fact that the next round of streetlights is going to be installed on neighborhood streets and people may be more sensitive.

e. Bright Ideas Events

- Solar Workshop – recap

Well attended with active audience participation

- Celebrate WH – recap

Well attended. Rain the rain forced closure on Sun/ LED lights were well received. Should have handed out more on Sat.

- EV Event – recap

About 50 attendees (same as Solar Workshop). Variety of cars – BMW, Tesla, VW, Chevy, Ford. Good mix of dealers and owners. Insurance requirements with Town more complicated than bargained for – need to start MUCH earlier next time. Good experience putting together an event like this. Have about 6 leftover boxes of LED lightbulbs (300 bulbs).

- Lightbulb Swap – Bishops Corner (M Sept 26 3-7 PM)

- Lightbulb Swap – Elmwood (Sa, Sept 24 (9:30-1:30)

No planning to be done. Techniart handle everything. We (or Eversource) may want to set up table in back. Samantha at Eversource committed to sending a postcard mailing

reminder before these events. Efficiency workshop will be included on postcard.
Catherine will follow-up.

b.

- EE Workshop – W, Oct 12 7-8:30PM, Rm 314 – **need to organize planning committee**

Volunteers for Planning Committee – Craig Diamond, Sean Connaway, Dan Tavelli, Joe Campanella, Bernie Pelletier, Doug Bacon

Note: HES assessment price going up to \$124 from \$99 on Sept 1, 2016.

Discussion of inviting 1 or more HES contractors

Table for Solarize and other program information

Technologies that we may highlight: Hot Water heaters, Smart Thermostats, Mini Splits, Insulation, Energy Efficient Appliances/Rebates

Should work with Samantha at Eversource to organize speakers/content, etc.

Should promote on the WH Friends/Neighbors Facebook page, Senior Centers Newsletters.

- Channel 95 videos

Ongoing

f. Energy / Recycling Plan

- (Revised) Eversource data received
- Bernie's estimation spreadsheet

Energy benchmarking finished for 2015:

Category	Consumption
Natural Gas	890 GWH
Transport	989 GWH
Oil Heat	322 GWH
Electricity	408 GWH
Total	2,610 GWH

According to Catherine/Bernie's rough calculations Town/WHPS sites/street lights = about 5% of total usage.

Next steps – create pie charts – share information with Jeff Howard and Keri Enright Kato

g. 100% Simsbury/West Hartford

5. New Business

a. Solar Scorecard – ranked 15th, (Council Briefs, WH Press)

Recommended to look at areas we fell short (online information) that could be remedied easily.

- b. Timothy J. Mikloiche, Building Official to present at SolarConnecticut member meeting July 11.
- c. Mark McGovern, Dir. Comm. Services, WH Chamber of Commerce & Bob Wall, CT Green Bank met June 30 on C-PACE outreach
- d. Colebrook Wind Farm Tour – recap

Wind IS possible in Connecticut – key is siting away from people and having sufficient wind

- e. CT Clean Energy Communities – to pay for EnergyStar certification for WH buildings. (Hall, Smith, Sedgwick, Town Hall). ISE/CT Green Leaf updating Portfolio Manager data.

6. Adjournment – 9:08 PM